

REMARKS

In this response, claim 57 has been amended, and no claims have been added or canceled. Thus, claims 1-16 and 19-64 remain pending. The Non-Final Office Action issued by the Examiner has been carefully considered by Applicant.

Claims 1-16, 19-64 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Obradovich (U.S. 2006/0206576) and Spaur et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,732,074).

Applicant's independent claim 1 recites that "the gateway node in the vehicle comprises at least one real-time interface processor (RTIP) and at least one application processor, the RTIP performing real-time operations and the application processor performing high-level processing functions". The Examiner now cites the newly-found primary reference Obradovich in this rejection, and specifically cites page 7, par. 0076 of Obradovich as showing the foregoing. However, Obradovich in this paragraph merely describes map information being provided in real-time to the vehicle via C-mail or as a web page. This paragraph does not even talk about processors, much less two processors as Applicant has claimed.

Further, Applicant was not able to locate any other teaching in Obradovich to other than a single processor 103 as shown in Fig. 1. Moreover, Obradovich describes that various functions are performed using processor 103. Accordingly, there is no teaching of any distinction between real-time operations on a first processor and high-level processing on a second processor.

For example, Obradovich describes that a variety of dynamic data are provided to processor 103 from sensors in the vehicle (par. 0037), that processor 103 also synchronizes activities of system 100 and keeps track of events (par. 0046), and that processor 103 polls each subsystem from time to time for dynamic data (par. 0047). The Examiner has failed to present articulated reasoning that supports the teaching or suggestion of two processors as claimed. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been presented.

Applicant's claim 1 further recites that "the RTIP couples the application processor to a vehicle bus and to an external network". The Examiner has also failed to identify any vehicle bus in Obradovich, which appears to describe only a common bus 113 in Fig. 1. If the Examiner argues that common bus 113 is a vehicle bus as claimed, then there is no articulated reasoning regarding any RTIP that couples an application processor to common bus 113. For this additional reason, Applicant respectfully submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been presented. None of the other cited art is believed to teach or suggest such processors as claimed, and Applicant requests that this rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

As to Spaur, the Examiner describes this reference to teach that the "processor 90 is a single microprocessor". It appears the Examiner is arguing that Spaur shows a single processor performs both real-time and other tasks. Thus, Spaur does not satisfy the deficiencies of Obradovich discussed above. Nothing in the Examiner's citations to Obradovich or Spaur provides rationale underpinnings to support the conclusion that a real-time interface processor and an application processor as claimed by Applicant are obvious.

Applicant's other independent claims 42, 49, 56, and 57 recite a real-time interface processor and an application processor and are believed allowable for similar reasons as discussed above.

Dependent Claims

Applicant's dependent claim 61 recites that "the at least one gateway node provides protocol translation in bridging a first vehicle bus and a second vehicle bus". Obradovich only illustrates a single common bus 113. The Examiner presents no argument whatsoever regarding a gateway node, having a real-time interface processor and an application processor, that bridges a first vehicle bus and a second vehicle bus. The Examiner instead merely cites a teaching by Obradovich at par. [0060] of a database that can be queried by auto repair services.

Applicant's dependent claim 62 recites that "the at least one gateway node functions as an Internet Protocol (IP) router". However, the Examiner merely cites a teaching by Obradovich

at par. [0025] that a remote station can make calls to vehicles. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 61 and 62 should be allowed for these further reasons.

Telephone Interview

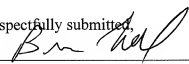
If, based upon the above arguments, the Examiner does not agree that all pending claims are now allowable, Applicant hereby requests a telephone interview to discuss the rationale for the Examiner's rejection and the Examiner's arguments as to how Obradovich teaches both real-time and application processors.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of this application and the allowance of all pending claims. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Applicant believes that any of the Examiner's other arguments not explicitly discussed above are moot in light of the above arguments, but reserves the right to later address these other arguments. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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